

EXHIBIT L



**U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services**

June 15, 2012

NRC2012055854

Jeffrey Martins
Attorney at Law
369 Pine Street, Suite 725
San Francisco, CA 94104

Dear Jeffrey Martins:

We received your request for information relating to [REDACTED] on June 15, 2012.

Your request is being handled under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. § 552). It has been assigned the following control number: NRC2012055854. Please cite this number in all future correspondence about your request.

We respond to requests on a first-in, first-out basis and on a multi-track system. Your request has been placed in the fast track (Track 3).

In accordance with Department of Homeland Security Regulations (6 C.F.R. § 5.3(c)), your request is deemed to constitute an agreement to pay any fees that may be chargeable up to \$25.00. Fees may be charged for searching for records sought at the respective clerical, professional, and/or managerial rates of \$4.00/\$7.00/\$10.25 per quarter hour, and for duplication of copies at the rate of \$.10 per copy. The first 100 copies and two hours of search time are not charged, and the remaining combined charges for search and duplication must exceed \$14.00 before we will charge you any fees. Most requests do not require any fees; however, if fees in excess of \$25.00 are required, we will notify you beforehand.

This office will be providing your records on a Compact Disc (CD) for use on your personal computer. The CD is readable on all computers through the use of Adobe Acrobat software. A version of Adobe Acrobat will be included on the CD. Your records can be viewed on your computer screen and can be printed onto paper. Only records 15 pages or more are eligible for CD printing. To request your responsive records on paper, please include your control number and write to the above address Attention: FOIA/PA Officer, or fax them to (816) 350-5785.

USCIS no longer collects Social Security Numbers in connection with FOIA or PA requests. When forwarding to us any documents related to your request, please ensure any Social Security Numbers on the documents are blanked out or removed.

The National Records Center (NRC) has the responsibility to ensure that personally identifiable information (PII) pertaining to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) clients is protected. In our efforts to safeguard this information, we may request that additional information be provided to facilitate and correctly identify records responsive to your request. Though submission of this information is voluntary, without this information, your request may be delayed while additional steps are taken to ensure the correct responsive records are located and processed. Further, if we are unable to

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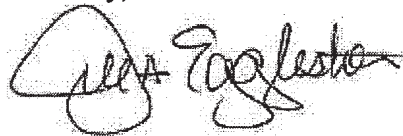
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positively identify the subject of the record we may be unable to provide records responsive to your FOIA request.

You may check the status of your FOIA request online, at www.uscis.gov. Click on "FOIA Request Status Check" located on the left side of the web page under "Other Services", and follow the instructions. If you have any questions concerning your pending FOIA/PA request, or to check the status of a pending application or petition, please call The National Customer Service Center at 1-800-375-5283. Please be aware that the National Records Center no longer accepts FOIA/PA related questions directly by phone.

All FOIA/PA related requests, including address changes, must be submitted in writing and be signed by the requester. Please include the control number listed above on all correspondence with this office. Requests may be mailed to the FOIA/PA Officer at the PO Box listed at the top of the letterhead, or sent by fax to (816) 350-5785. You may also submit FOIA/PA related requests to our e-mail address at uscis.foia@uscis.dhs.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jill A. Eggleston", written over a circular stamp or seal.

Jill A. Eggleston
Director, FOIA Operations

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
National Records Center
P.O. Box 648010
Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

July 19, 2012

NRC2012055854

Jeffrey Martins
Law Office of Jeffrey Martins
369 Pine Street, Suite 725
San Francisco, CA 94104

Dear Jeffrey Martins:

This is in response to your Freedom of Information Act/Privacy Act (FOIA/PA) request received in this office June 15, 2012 regarding [REDACTED]

We have completed the review of all documents and have identified 177 pages that are responsive to your request. Enclosed are 120 pages released in their entirety, and 10 pages released in part. We are withholding 43 pages in full. In our review of these pages, we have determined that they contain no reasonably segregable portion(s) of non-exempt information. Additionally, we have referred 3 pages in their entirety to US Visit for their direct response to you. We have reviewed and have determined to release all information except those portions that are exempt pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(5), (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) and (b)(7)(E) of the FOIA.

During our review, USCIS located a potentially responsive document(s) that may have originated from U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). USCIS has sent the document(s) and a copy of your FOIA request to the ICE FOIA Office for consideration and direct response to you. Should you wish to contact ICE concerning the status of the processing of the document(s), please contact the ICE FOIA Office via phone at (866) 633-1182 or via e-mail at ICE-FOIA@dhs.gov. The ICE FOIA Office mailing address is 500 12th Street, S.W., MS 5009, Washington, D.C. 20536-5009.

The following exemptions are applicable:

Exemption (b)(5) provides protection for inter-agency or intra-agency memoranda or letters, which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency. The types of documents and/or information we have withheld under this exemption may consist of documents containing pre-decisional information, documents or other memoranda prepared in contemplation of litigation, or confidential communications between attorney and client.

Exemption (b)(6) permits the government to withhold all information about individuals in personnel, medical and similar files where the disclosure of such information would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. The types of documents and/or information we have withheld may consist of birth certificates, naturalization certificates, drivers' licenses, social security numbers, home addresses, dates of birth, or various other documents and/or information belonging to a third party that are considered personal.

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Exemption (b)(7)(C) provides protection for personal information in law enforcement records, which could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. We have withheld information relating to third-party individuals. The types of documents and/or information we have withheld could consist of names, addresses, identification numbers, telephone numbers, fax numbers, or various other documents that are considered personal.

Exemption (b)(7)(E) provides protection for records or information for law enforcement purposes which would disclose techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions, or would disclose guidelines for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions if such disclosure could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law. The types of documents and/or information we have withheld could consist of law enforcement systems checks, manuals, checkpoint locations, surveillance techniques, and various other documents.

As a result of discussion between agency personnel and a member of our staff, as a matter of administrative discretion, we are releasing computer codes found on system screen prints previously withheld under exemption b(2). There may be additional documents that contain discretionary releases of exempt information. If made, these releases are specifically identified in the responsive record. These discretionary releases do not waive our ability to invoke applicable FOIA exemptions for similar or related information in the future.

The enclosed record consists of the best reproducible copies available. Certain pages could contain marks that appear to be blacked-out information. The black marks were made prior to our receipt of the file and are not information we have withheld under the provisions of the FOIA or PA.

If you wish to appeal this determination, you may write to the USCIS FOIA/PA Appeals Office, 150 Space Center Loop, Suite 500, Lee's Summit, MO 64064-2139, within 60 days of the date of this letter. Both the letter and the envelope should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal."

The National Records Center does not process petitions, applications or any other type of benefit under the Immigration and Nationality Act. If you have questions or wish to submit documentation relating to a matter pending with the bureau, you must address these issues with your nearest District Office.

All FOIA/PA related requests, including address changes, must be submitted in writing and be signed by the requester. Please include the control number listed above on all correspondence with this office. Requests may be mailed to the FOIA/PA Officer at the PO Box listed at the top of the letterhead, or sent by fax to (816) 350-5785. You may also submit FOIA/PA related requests to our e-mail address at uscis.foia@uscis.dhs.gov.

Sincerely,



Jill A. Eggleston
Director, FOIA Operations

**LAW OFFICE OF
JEFFREY MARTINS**

US Immigration Attorney-At-Law

369 Pine St., Suite 725, San Francisco, CA 94104, 415-954-9433
www.martinslawoffice.com, Martinslaw@sbcglobal.net

August 24, 2012

USCIS FOIA/PA Appeals Office
150 Space Center Loop, Suite 500
Lee's Summit, MO 64064-2139

To Whom It May Concern:

Dear Sir or Madam:

Please consider this letter as an appeal of the determination to withhold information from the Freedom of Information Act request filed with the National Record Center regarding [REDACTED] NRC2012055854.

In the July 19, 2012, response to the Freedom of Information Act request, information regarding [REDACTED] was improperly withheld. There was a large amount of information inappropriately blocked out or withheld altogether

Most significantly, [REDACTED] was interviewed at the San Francisco Asylum Office on or about October 25, 2011. During this interview a written or typed record of the questions and answers was created. These notes represent the only record of the sworn testimony of [REDACTED] and do not fall under any exception listed in the Freedom of Information Act, U.S.C. 552 and related provisions.

According to the response, it appears that this information is being withheld under Freedom of Information Act, U.S.C. 552(b)(5). The sworn testimony of [REDACTED] does not constitute interagency memorandum or letters or other internal agency information nor does it constitute predecisional information, documents made in contemplation of litigation, or confidential communication between attorney and client.

Sworn statements taken by immigration officials in all contexts are available through Freedom of Information Act requests and the officer's written records of [REDACTED] interview is no different and should have been provided.

Please reconsider the decision to withhold this information and provide it to [REDACTED] attorney, Jeffrey Martins, at the above listed address. Providing this information in a timely manner will help avoid any additional legal action.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me using any of the information listed at the top of this letter.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Martins, Esq.

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
HQ FOIA/PA Appeals
150 Space Center Loop, Suite 500
Lee's Summit, MO 64064-2139



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

October 1, 2012

APP2012000935

Jeffrey Martins
Law Office of Jeffrey Martins
369 Pine Street, Suite 725
San Francisco, CA 94104

Dear Mr. Martins:

Re: NRC2012055854

You appealed the action of the National Records Center regarding your request for access to records pertaining to [REDACTED] dated June 15, 2012. The original determination of the National Records Center was to withhold 10 pages in part and 43 in full.

After careful consideration of your appeal, and as a result of discussions with the National Records Center, we have decided to release 34 additional pages to you, copies of which are enclosed. We are releasing 33 pages in part and 1 in full. We have redacted information pursuant to 5 U.S.C. §§ 552 (b)(5) and (b)(6).

On the remaining pages, we found that the National Records Center properly withheld certain information that is protected from disclosure. We have determined that this information is not appropriate for discretionary release. Records related to asylum determinations are appropriately withheld pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(5). See *Phillips v. Immigration and Customs Enforcement*, 385 F.Supp.2d 296, 302-03 (S.D.N.Y. 2005).

If you are dissatisfied with our action on your appeal, you may seek judicial review in accordance with 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(B). The Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) also mediates disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies as a non-exclusive alternative to litigation. The OGIS does not have the authority to handle requests made under the Privacy Act of 1974. If you wish to contact OGIS, you may email them at ogis@nara.gov or call 1-877-684-6448.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Alan D. Hughes".

Alan D. Hughes, Associate Counsel
Commercial and Administrative Law Division
Department of Homeland Security
Citizenship and Immigration Services